

SUMMER WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW 2016/2017

The summer of 2016/2017 was slightly drier than normal with temperatures at their highest for 78 years.

Low pressure troughs were active throughout the three months (December, January and February) generating thunderstorms on 26 days. There were no major rain systems and almost all rain during the summer fell from thunderstorms.

The rainfall total for the three months was 248.8 millimetres which was 30 mm lower than the long term average (LTA).

December recorded 80.0 mm (LTA 89 mm), January 68.0 mm (LTA 102 mm) and February 100.8 mm (LTA 88 mm). The highest daily fall was 39.6 mm on 23rd December.

It was Armidale's second hottest summer on record with temperatures well above the LTA in all three months. The hottest summer in the last in 127 years of available records was in 1938/39. The highest temperature for the summer of 37.6C was the hottest since 15th January 1939 when 39.7C was recorded at the post office.

It was a partly cloudy summer with 38 sunny days (LTA 42 days), and thunderstorms on 26 days (LTA 19 days). Hail was observed with only one storm on 23rd December.

Prevailing winds were westerlies in December and January with easterlies increasing in February.

SUMMER 2016/17 STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 248.8 mm (278.5 mm)

Average maximum temp: 28.8 deg (25.6 deg)

Average minimum temp: 14.1 deg (12.1 deg)

Highest maximum temp: 37.6 deg on 12th February

Lowest maximum temp: 20.1 deg on 28th February

Highest minimum: 20.3 deg on 25th January

Lowest minimum temp: 5.6 deg on 10th December

Days higher than 29.9C: 35 (12)

Fine sunny days: 38 (42)

Days with thunderstorms: 26 (19)

